

Message Text

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44

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OIC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PM-07 NSC-10 AF-10

ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00

SS-15 /151 W

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R 240949 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9489

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2473

PASS COMMERCE AND LABOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG ILO

SUBJ: ILO - GB CHAIRMANSHIP 1973-74

REF: A. BUENOS AIRES 3488

B. LONDON 05953

1. IN VIEW CONTINUING RELUCTANCE ARGENTINA (REFA) AND LACK OF INTEREST EXPRESSED BY UK (REF B) IT APPEARS SOVIET CANDIDATE WILL HAVE CLEAR SHOT AT CHAIRMANSHIP IF SOVIETS CANNOT BE DETERRED FROM PURSUING THEIR OBJECTIVE ON GROUNDS SUGGESTED PARA 2 REF B OR OTHERWISE PREVENTED FROM ASSUMING THE CHAIR, PERHAPS THEY WOULD BE PREPARED MAKE CONCESSIONS IN RETURN FOR WIDER GB SUPPORT FOR THEIR CANDIDATE.

2. SUPPORT FOR SOVIET CANDIDATE IN NON- GOVERNMENT GROUPS OF GB MAY BE SUFFICIENTLY MARGINAL TO BE EMBARRASSING TO SOVIETS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A LARGE PORTION, PERHAPS ALL, OF THE EMPLOYERS GROUP AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE WORKERS GROUP WILL REFUSE TO SUPPORT A SOVIET CANDIDATE.

3. FACED WITH THAT PROSPECT SOVIETS MIGHT DECIDE TO RIDE OUT
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LOSS OF SUPPORT IN WORKER GROUP AND ATTACK MASSIVE DEFECTION OF EMPLOYER GROUP AS FURTHER PROOF OF ITS " REACTIONARY" CHARACTER DOMINATED BY " CAPITALIST, MONOPOLIST, IMPERIALIST" TENDENCIES. ON OTHER HAND SOVIETS MIGHT VIEW POSSIBLE FRAGMENTED VICTORY AS UNWORTHY OF GREAT POWER ASSUMING GB CHAIRMANSHIP FOR FIRST TIME.

4. AS THE POTENTIALLY LARGEST GROUP OF DISSENTERS FROM A SOVIET VICTORY, THE EMPLOYERS GROUP POSSES THE BEST LEVERAGE TO ENCOURAGE SOVIET CONCESSIONS. THE OBVIOUS BARGAIN WOULD INVOLVE EMPLOYER GROUP SUPPORT FOR SOVIET CANDIDATE IN RETURN FOR SOVIET WITHDRAWAL OF PRESSURE, ON TERMS ACCEPTABLE TO EMPLOYERS, TO FORCE SOCIALIST MANAGERS ON TO THE EMPLOYERS GROUP.

5. OF COURSE, EMPLOYERS GROUP MAY NOT BE SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTED IN ANY NEGOTIATED ARRANGEMENT TO PURSUE SUBJECT IN DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS. HOWEVER USDEL MIGHT WANT TO EXPLORE OUTLINES OF IDEA WITH US EMPLOYER MEMBER OF GB FOR HIS REACTION. BASSIN

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